THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The Government announces each season Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for major agricultural commodities, including pulses, based on the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The Minimum Support Prices of pulses for the Kharif and Rabi Crops of 2005-06 season have already been announced and are as follows:

(Rs. per quintal)

Pulse	MSP
Arhar (Tur)	1400
Moong	1520
Urad	1520
Masur (Lentil)	1535
Gram	1435

(c) Does not arise.

Land management

†1963. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that gross domestic product of the country has been falling to 1.3 per cent due to poor land management;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether any scheme for proper land management has been forwarded to State Governments; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) The gross domestic product in real terms at 1999-2000 prices has registered a growth of 8.10% in the year 2005-06, compared to the growth of 7.50% in the year, 2004-05.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The need to properly manage our land resources for sustainable development is, however, well recognized. Government of India has formulated comprehensive schemes/programmes on watershed development for control of soil erosion and land degradation in the country. The various Watershed Development Programmes being implemented are (i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA), (ii) Soil Conservation for Enhancing Productivity of Degraded Land in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR), (iii) Reclamation of Alkali Soil (RAS), (iv) Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA), (v) Externally Aided Projects (EAPs) on Watershed Development, (vi) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), (vii) Desert Development Programme, (viii) Integrated Waste-land Development Programme (IWDP) and (ix) National Afforestation & Eco-Development Project Schemes (NAEPS).

National Research Centre for Pomegranate

1964. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to establish a National Research Centre for Pomegranate at Solapur in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) A National Research Centre on Pomegranate (NRCP) has already been established by the Indian Council of Agricultral Research at Shelgi, Solapur (Maharashtra) and has started functioning thereon for conducting basic, strategic and applied research for increasing production.

Unified Research

†1965. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no growth in the fields of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.